(c) if not, the reasons for doing the same;

(d) whether the laws are being violated by the authorities; and

(e) if so, the justification thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) Out of total coal production of 343.30 million tonnes in 2005-06, 160.34 million tonnes was produced by hired equipment / outsourcing by Coal India Limited (CIL) which was 46.7% of total coal production.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The contracts being awarded by the Coal Companies for raising of coal or overburden (OB) and earth cutting do not violate the provisions of Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970 or the Notification No. SO-2063 dated 21.6.1988 if the contractors use Heavy Earth Moving Machinery (HEMM) and do not use the services of contract labour. This stipulation is incorporated in the agreements.

Discontinuation of E-auction

1803. SHRI MAHMOOD A. MADANI:
SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the reason for discontinuing the E-auction of coal;

(b) whether Government have evolved an alternative mechanism to allocate coal;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) in what way the new mechanism is an improvement over the previous E-auction scheme to facilitate supply of coal to the marginalized and small scale sectors?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) to (d) The concept of E-marketing was introduced in the year 2004-05 with a view to provide an entry opportunity for all the consumers whether linked or non-linked through a transparent system. However, the sale of coal through E-auction has been discontinued as per the judgement of Hon'ble Supreme Court in Civil Appeal no. 5302 of 2006

(arising out of SLP (Civil) No. 20471 of 2005). Further, keeping in view the observations and directions of the Hon'ble Supreme Court, a Committee has been constituted under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Coal) to evolve a new policy for distribution of coal. Therefore, at this stage no comparison could be made. Meanwhile, Coal India Limited (CIL) has, in the interim, put in place e-booking scheme to ensure that the supply of coal to consumers including non-linked consumers does not suffer.

Aryan Coal Benefication Washery

†1804. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the land which houses Aryan Coal Benefication Washery (Dipika) today, was declared fit only for dumping by CMPDI;

(b) if so, by whose permission SECL allotted this land for washery to the said company; and

(c) the grounds on which recommendations of CMPDI—an expert agency in the field of Coal mining, were nullified?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) With the permission of Ministry of Coal, out of 197 hectares of land identified for overburden dump of Dipika Opencast Project, only 5 hectares of land on the outer fringe was leased out by South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) in 1998 to M/s. Aryan Coal Benefication Private Limited for setting up of a coal benefication plant without affecting the dumping space.

(c) The recommendation of CMPDI has never been nullified.

Guidelines to coal washeries

†1805. SHRI RAMADHAR KASHYAP: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Coal India Limited has issued any guidelines to the effect that only those washeries be promoted which produce 65 per cent of ash *i.e.* 0 per cent UHV so that it does not remain fit for sale;

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.